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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Session No. : 8

File Name : DEVB(W)-2S-e1

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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development
Session No. : 8**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)01

Question Serial No.

S095

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau (Works
Branch)

Programme: (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In the Reply Serial No. DEVB(W)008, the Administration indicates that the substantial decrease of tree management staff to 5 people in the Architectural Services Department is due to the outsourcing of relevant work. Will the Government advise this Committee of the number of outsourced workers responsible for tree management work in various tree management departments, the scope of work involved as well as the estimated expenditure for tree management contractors in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

For Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), the five number of staff are staff with specialised knowledge and experience on tree management to undertake the day-to-day tree management duties for the SIMAR slopes under ArchSD's maintenance. The tree maintenance works are outsourced to contractors. Senior staff at the strategic level and, where necessary, other staff are temporarily deployed on a need basis on tree management work.

The tree management departments may engage contractors to assist in tree maintenance in the following manner -

- (i) directly engage horticulture contractors for carrying out maintenance work on the trees under their purview (including tree pruning); or
- (ii) engage term maintenance contractors for the management of the relevant facility, who may in turn engage specialist landscape contractors, as required, for tree maintenance (including tree pruning).

For the period from 1 April 2012 to 31 December 2012, the number of outsourced workers involved in tree management in contracts under the main tree management departments is 950 (including workers on a full-time or part-time basis). The scope of service has to suit

the requirements of the tree management departments and this includes routine tree inspection and maintenance such as pruning, pest control, removal of hazardous trees, tree risk assessment and associated mitigation measures as well as following up tree complaints and emergent tree cases.

The contract amount under the major tree management departments in 2012-13 (up to 31 December 2012) is \$266 million.

The tree management departments would prepare estimated expenditure for tree management in 2013-14 based on the previous expenditure, inflation and new contract requirements.

Name in block letters: C S Wai
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)
Date: 18 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)02

Question Serial No.

S096

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau
(Works Branch)

Programme: (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In the Reply Serial No. DEVB(W)007, the Administration indicates that it will nominate new trees to enrich the Register of Old and Valuable Trees. How will the Administration select the trees and determine what trees to be included in the Register? What are the details of work and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In selecting suitable trees for inclusion in the Old and Valuable Trees (OVT) Register, we shall consider such factors as tree size, species, age and form; as well as cultural, historical or commemorative significance.

The Development Bureau has invited the Expert Panel for Tree Management, relevant professional organizations and green groups to propose trees on government land for nomination under the Register of OVT. The Tree Management Office and tree management departments will also help identify suitable trees for OVT nomination during routine inspections and execution of other tree management duties.

The processing of OVT nominations mentioned above is carried out by existing staff and does not incur additional expenditure.

Name in block letters: C S Wai

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date: 18 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)03

Question Serial No.

S182

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau
(Works Branch)

Programme: (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In the Reply Serial No. DEVB(W)037, the Administration indicates that about 200 problematic roadside trees have been identified in the tree survey. What is the current progress of the follow-up work? What protective measures will be taken before the rainy and typhoon season in summer?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

The Tree Management Office of the Development Bureau have referred problem trees identified in the roadside tree survey to responsible tree management departments for follow up action and would monitor the progress.

Among the cases referred to departments, mitigation measures such as pruning, removal of dead branches or dead trees have been completed on around 140 cases while measures for the others are on going. Cases posing higher risk would be given priority mitigation for the sake of public safety before the onset of the rainy and typhoon season in the summer.

Name in block letters: C S Wai

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date: 18 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)04

Question Serial No.

S131

Head: 138 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau
(Planning and Lands
Branch)

159 Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau
(Works Branch)

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development
(Planning and Lands)

Permanent Secretary for Development
(Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In connection with the provision of public information and gathering of public opinions by means of the Internet, please advise of the following:

- (a) the particulars, in tabulated forms (see Annex 1), regarding the social media platforms set up and operated by bureaux/departments/public bodies or their agents (such as out-sourced contractors or consultants) for the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13).
- (b) Using the table below (see Annex 2), provide information on practical training received by Government officers in social media.
- (c) In respect of the setting up and operation of social media platforms, did the Administration provide Government officers with guidelines on the operation and use of social media and encourage Government agencies to strengthen communication with the public by means of social media? If yes, what are the details? If no, does the Government have any plan to formulate such guidelines? If there is no such a plan, what are the reasons?

- (d) In recent years, governments around the world have introduced systems through which citizens may hand in their online proposals. They have also undertaken that they would give a formal online response if a certain number of citizens have indicated their support of the proposals. Did the Administration look into ways to improve the existing channels for collecting public opinions on the Internet and evaluate the feasibility of collecting public opinions on the Internet through the above systems. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Annex 1

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
			(1)...	(1)...					
			(2)...	(2)...					
			(3)...	(3)...					

Annex 2

Date (Month/ Year)	Status (under progress/ completed) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name of course provider	Course title	Course content (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	No. of officers participated and completed a course (as at 28 February 2013)	Total no. of training hours (as at 28 February 2013)	Rank and no. of officers participated in training (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in training (as at 28 February 2013)
				(1)...	(1)...				
				(2)...	(2)...				
				(3)...	(3)...				

Reply:

- (a) The statistics relating to Development Bureau (DEVB), departments and public bodies under DEVB's purview or their agents are provided at **Annex 1**.
- (b) As at 28 February 2013, officers in the DEVB and its departments have not yet received formal training in social media.
- (c) DEVB and its departments make reference to the "Guidelines on the Use of Social Media" available on the Government Intranet for use by all Bureaux and Departments in setting up and maintaining our social media platform.
- (d) The DEVB and its departments have set up and operated websites to strengthen the communication with the general public, including dedicated websites to promulgate proposals, collect public views, and respond to the comments received. It is an on-going effort of the DEVB and its departments to enhance the communication with the general public through different media, including websites, emails and social media. We will continue to review and evaluate the existing channels for collecting public opinions on the Internet.

Name in block letters: C S Wai
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)
Date: 18 April 2013

Annex 1

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
March 2013	Not yet launched (subsequently launched on 20 March 2013)	Development Bureau (DEVB)	DEVB	Facebook	To post major policy issues on the Facebook to invite comments from members of the public.	Not applicable (N.A)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
February 2013	Keeps on updating	Works Branch, DEVB	DEVB’s YouTube channel	YouTube	To make use of the social media to post interesting coverage of Energising Kowloon East Office events. 3 videos have been uploaded.	No. of video views (total): 121	No	1 Senior Executive Assistant	N.A.

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
June 2012	Ceased updating	Works Branch, DEVB	Greening Projects’ YouTube channel	YouTube	To share presentation material for Skyrise Greenery Awards 2012 seminar held in May 2012. No update has been made since its upload in June 2012.	No. of video views (total): 529	No	N.A.	N.A.
May 2012	Ceased updating	Works Branch, DEVB	DEVB’s YouTube channel	YouTube	To showcase the activities of the Construction Safety Week 2012 organised in May 2012. 5 videos have been uploaded.	No. of video views (total): 196	No	1 Assistant Secretary	N.A.

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
March 2012	Ceased updating	Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)	Weaving New City-Fabric	Facebook	To facilitate design competition for noise mitigation/ retaining structure under the Tsuen Wan Bypass project. 8 posts have been uploaded.	Number of “Like”: 18	No	A public relations service provider employed by CEDD	Included in the cost of the public relations service provider. There is no separate cost breakdown for the part of Facebook and YouTube media.
March 2012	Ceased updating	CEDD	Weaving New City-Fabric	YouTube	To facilitate design competition for noise mitigation/ retaining structure under the Tsuen Wan Bypass project. 2 videos have	No. of video views (total): 600	No	A public relations service provider employed by CEDD	Included in the cost of the public relations service provider. There is no separate cost breakdown for the part of Facebook and YouTube

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
					been uploaded.				media.
November 2011	Keeps on updating	CEDD	Enhancing Land Supply Strategy (ELSS)	Facebook	To provide subscribers the latest news of ELSS. 81 contents have been uploaded.	Number of “Like”: 166	To be updated as and when there is new information.	1 Engineer	Included in the cost of consultancy study. There is no separate cost breakdown for the part of Facebook media.
August 2011	Keeps on updating	CEDD	Geotechnical Engineering Office (GEO), CEDD	Facebook	To facilitate public education and promote awareness of slope safety. 23 posts have been issued.	Number of “Like”: 128	No	1 Senior Geotechnical Engineer (SGE)	N.A.

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
August 2011	Keeps on updating	CEDD	GEO, CEDD	YouTube	To facilitate public education and promote awareness of slope safety. 23 videos have been uploaded.	No. of video views (total): 16 692	No	1 SGE	N.A.
November 2012	Keeps on updating	Drainage Services Department (DSD)	Shatin Sewage Treatment Works in Caverns	Facebook	To provide information relating to the consultancy and public engagement activities. 10 times of updates have been made.	No. of “Like”: 87	No	Consultant of Feasibility Study	N.A.
June 2012	Keeps on updating	DSD	DSD’s YouTube channel	YouTube	To make use of social media to upload DSD’s publicity videos.	No. of video views (total): about 4 640	No	1 Analyst Programmer II	N.A.

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
					15 videos have been uploaded.				
July 2012	Keeps on updating	Electrical & Mechanical Services Department (EMSD)	EMSD Channel	YouTube	To disseminate publicity and educational videos to public and trade through internet. 11 videos (DEVB related) have been uploaded.	No. of video views (total): about 20 000	Yes	1 Engineer	N.A.
May 2012	Keeps on updating	Construction Industry Council (CIC)	CIC’s Facebook	Facebook	To provide updates on CIC’s major events. Over 40 posts have been issued.	No. of “Likes”: 41	Yes	1 Officer under CIC	N.A.

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
May 2012	Keeps on updating	CIC	CIC’s Twitter	Twitter	To post top stories of CIC. 28 tweets have been issued.	No. of subscribers: 6	Yes	1 Officer under CIC	N.A.
February 2012	Keeps on updating	CIC	CIC Construction Industry Resource Centre’s (CIRC) Facebook	Facebook	To promote the CIRC. Over 40 posts have been issued.	No. of “Likes”: 59	Yes	1 Officer under CIC	N.A.
December 2011	Keeps on updating	CIC	CIC Construction JobsNet’s Facebook	Facebook	To promote the JobsNet and to provide information on construction worker recruitment activities. Over 40 posts have been issued.	No. of “Likes”: 63	Yes	1 Officer under CIC	N.A.

Commencement of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keeps on updating / ceased updating) (as at 28 February 2013)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments/ public bodies/ government consultants)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 28 February 2013)	No. of “Likes”/ subscribers/ average monthly visits (as at 28 February 2013)	Compilation of summary of comments and follow-up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 28 February 2013)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 28 February 2013)
October 2011	Keeps on updating	Zero Carbon Building (ZCB), CIC	ZCB, CIC’s Facebook	Facebook	To provide information on ZCB, CIC. Over 90 posts have been issued.	No. of “Likes”: 882	Yes	1 Officer under CIC	N.A.
January 2010	Keeps on updating	CIC	CIC Training Courses and Trade Tests Facebook page	Facebook	To provide information on construction training courses and trade tests. Over 180 posts have been issued.	No. of “Likes”: 113	Yes	1 Officer under CIC	N.A.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)05

Question Serial No.

S064

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau
(Works Branch)

Programme: (5) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Following up on Question Serial No. 0436:

What are the details of the Contractor Cooperative Training Scheme (CCTS) for the electrical and mechanical (E&M) trades of the construction industry? What E&M trades will be covered? What is the expected number of training places to be provided by the CCTS? Will the Administration increase trainees' allowances to attract more new entrants to the industry?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The Construction Industry Council (CIC), the Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors and the Lift and Escalator Contractor Association have finalized the details of the Contractors Cooperative Training Scheme (CCTS) for the Electrical and Mechanical (E&M) trades in the construction industry. Contractors will hire trainees and then provide them with training on construction sites. During the training period, the contractors will offer wages and other fringe benefits to the trainees. CIC will also offer training allowance to the trainees to provide added incentive to attract more new entrants to join the E&M trades of the construction industry.

As per discussion with the above-mentioned E&M trade associations, CIC plans to roll out the CCTS for the E&M trades in mid 2013 and provide a total of 1 100 training places in stages in 2013 to meet the projected manpower demand. It covers trades including electrical wireman, fire service electrical fitter, fire service mechanical fitter, lift mechanic,

escalator mechanic, refrigeration/air-conditioning/ventilation mechanics for air system, thermal insulation and water system. The training period for each of the trades is about 6 months. CIC will review the effectiveness of the CCTS for the E&M trades and suitably adjust the scheme to meet the market demand.

Name in block letters: C S Wai
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)
Date: 18 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)06

Question Serial No.

S181

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational Expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

It is shown in the reply under serial no. DEVB(W)109 that only a saving of 1.47% on the expenses for 'light and power' was achieved in 2012. Will the Administration consider adopting the ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems to save energy and reduce emissions? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

Drainage Services Department (DSD) has implemented ISO 14001: Environmental Management System (EMS) for years and one of its missions is to improve drainage services in a cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner. In 2004, DSD set up a Green Management Committee (GMC) and an Energy & Emission Management Team (EEMT) to support the GMC in developing and implementing energy/emission reduction measures.

Sewage conveyance and treatment are energy intensive processes. DSD has a comprehensive programme to conduct carbon audits at the major sewage facilities to identify energy saving and emission reduction opportunities. We also establish annual energy saving objectives and targets as well as implement energy saving and renewable energy projects. In mid 2011 after the release of ISO 50001, we have been studying and evaluating the benefits of implementing this new standard. With our effort on energy management and the establishment of GMC and EEMT overseeing the work, we believe that the key elements of ISO 50001, such as its scope and general requirements, are being implemented by EMS and the associated energy related management systems. Nevertheless, DSD will continue to evaluate the merit of adopting the ISO 50001 standard

to enhance energy efficiency whilst up-keeping the effluent quality in full compliance with the statutory requirements.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 17 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)09

Question Serial No.

S061

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question: Follow up question on Question serial number 0313:

The average daily wages of lift and escalator workers were decreasing in the past three years. It would be difficult to attract newcomers to the trade with relatively low wages. Please advise what measures the Administration will take to improve the salary of lift and escalator workers, and attract more newcomers to the trade.

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The new Lift and Escalator Ordinance introduces a registration regime for workers to replace the employer-tied arrangement. The new arrangement provides workers with more flexibility in choosing jobs and bargaining power in negotiating remuneration packages.

Stepping up regulation against registered contractors to protect public safety aside, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has enhanced various publicity and promotions to urge responsible persons for lifts and escalators to be mindful of factors other than price in selecting contractors to ensure safety. The EMSD will publish categorisation of the performances of registered contractors regularly to help property owners and property management companies make informed choices in selecting appropriate registered contractors. We wish that the measures could improve the operating environment of registered contractors thus allowing them to be better placed to make investments in manpower and offer better remuneration packages to workers.

Besides, the following measures to improve the employment conditions and attract more newcomers to the trade will be implemented:

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)10

Question Serial No.

S062

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question: Follow up question on Question serial number 0313:

Based on the reply, please provide further breakdown of the number of lifts and escalators in the 18 districts under different age groups - over 40 years, between 30 to 40 years, and below 30 years. How many of these lifts are located at aged buildings without owners' corporations.

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The numbers of the lifts and escalators in the 18 districts divided into three age groups - over 40 years, between 30 to 40 years, and below 30 years are listed in the Table below.

We do not maintain record on the number of lifts and escalators located at aged buildings without owners' corporations.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)12

Question Serial No.

S065

Head: 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer: Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

To follow up the questions which I raised during the Special Finance Committee Meeting, would the Director, MA Lee-tak, provide further information on:

- (1) the respective percentages of the quantity of fresh water lost due to water main bursts against the annual quantity of fresh water supply in the past three years;
- (2) the respective percentages of the quantity of fresh water used for flushing against the annual quantity of fresh water supply in the past three years; and
- (3) the respective percentages of the quantity of fresh water lost due to overflow from our reservoirs against the annual quantity of fresh water supply in the past three years?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The concerned percentages are given in the following table -

		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
(1)	Percentage of the quantity of fresh water lost due to water main bursts against the annual quantity of fresh water supply	0.01%	Less than 0.01%	Less than 0.01%
(2)	Percentage of the quantity of fresh water used for flushing against the annual quantity of fresh water supply	8.4%	8.2%	7.9% (Projected figure)
(3)	Percentage of the quantity of fresh water lost due to overflow from our reservoirs against the annual quantity of fresh water supply	2.7% ¹	0.03%	1.7% ¹

Note:

- 1) The overflow is locally collected rainwater and occurs normally in small reservoirs during heavy rainstorms that fluctuate from year to year. Such overflow is an operational constraint rather than a loss.

Name in block letters: L T MA

Post Title: Director of Water Supplies

Date: 16 April 2013

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
ORAL QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SV-DEVB(W)01

Question Serial No.

SV026

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau
(Works Branch)

Programme: (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Pursuant to reply no. DEVB(W)037, the Administration is requested to provide information on measures that would be implemented in 2013-14 to deal with the two hundred problem trees identified through the roadside tree survey.

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

Once problem trees were identified, the Tree Management Office (TMO) of the Development Bureau would make referrals to the responsible tree management departments for follow up action and would monitor the progress.

Most of the problem trees identified had the following problems: sparse foliage, broken or dead branches, broken trunk, cavities or death. Relevant mitigation measures, such as pruning, removal of dead branches or dead trees, would be carried out by the responsible departments upon referral from TMO.

TMO will also take the lead in resolving complex tree cases which the tree management departments may not be able to deal with by themselves. If a case remains unresolved for a period of time, TMO will also liaise with the responsible department to expedite action.

Name in block letters: C S Wai

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date: 18 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
ORAL QUESTION**

SV-DEVB(W)02

Question Serial No.

SV025

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau
(Works Branch)

Programme: (4) Energizing Kowloon East

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In connection with the discussion on the Energizing Kowloon East Initiative, the Administration is requested to explain whether a study would be conducted where the development and promotion of cultural and creative industries in East Kowloon, the resources and support that would be provided to those industries, would be covered. The Administration is also requested to explain when the outcome of the study would be publicized, or the reason for not conducting the study.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

One of the strategies adopted in the Energizing Kowloon East Initiative is to promote diversity. According to the Survey on Business Establishments in Kowloon East (KE) undertaken by the Planning Department (PlanD) in 2011, there are about 500 nos. of cultural and creative workshops operating in KE. In the “Area Assessments of Industrial Land in the Territory” to be commissioned by PlanD later this year for completion in mid 2014, we will update this piece of information to provide a better understanding on the latest situation of art, cultural and creative industries in the area.

To sustain the role of KE as incubator for art, cultural and creative industries, we seize every opportunity to engage the stakeholders in the transformation process and explore opportunities to provide suitable space for the arts and creative sectors in KE. We have partnered artists and designers in the various place-making functions such as the inauguration ceremony of the Energizing Kowloon East Office and the 12-week Playful Thursday at Tsun Yip Street Playground. Besides, the Fly the Flyover Operation has converted the enclosed area underneath the Kwun Tong Bypass into an informal art and cultural venue that is opened for public use. We will continue to liaise with the practitioners in the arts and creative

sectors within KE and understand better their working environment and operational needs. We will also explore opportunities to provide suitable space for different types of art and cultural uses in existing and new premises in KE, including the remaining plots of flyover sites.

Name in block letters: C S Wai
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)
Date: 18 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
ORAL QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SV-DEVB(W)03

Question Serial No.

SV024

Head: 60 – Highways Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) – District and Maintenance Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Pursuant to reply no. DEVB(W)129, the Administration is requested to explain whether a comprehensive database is available for relevant companies to obtain information about any underground utilities or infrastructure prior to carrying out works in a particular site.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

Highways Department has jointly developed a computer system with utility undertakings (including the two power companies, gas company, Hong Kong Tramways and telecommunication companies), government departments (including the Drainage Services Department and Water Supplies Department) and the MTR Corporation to provide an electronic platform for sharing the existing underground utility records being kept and maintained by the above individual companies and departments. Utility undertakings, government departments and the MTR Corporation are obliged to provide the information of their own utilities at a particular site upon request by relevant authorities such as the Office of the Communication Authority, government departments and other utility undertakings prior to carrying out works at a particular site. The electronic platform has been put into operation since 2002.

Name in block letters:

K K LAU

Post Title:

Director of Highways

Date:

17.4.2013